

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 6-12, 15, 16, 18, and 19 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Backrest of an automobile vehicle seat including:

a framework having a front side and a rear side,

a padding,

a padding cover covering the padding and a front face and sides of the backrest,

a screen for a rear face of the backrest, and

a rigid back panel shield frame,

wherein the back panel shield frame is a frame with at least two lateral sides, and a bottom side, and a central opening,

the back panel shield frame being adapted to be is attached to the rear side of the framework of the backrest so as to cover lateral edges of the framework and a bottom part of the rear side of the framework of the backrest,

the back panel shield frame including includes towards an inner edge at least one groove adapted to accommodate and hold an edge of the padding cover and an edge of the screen, and the padding cover covering covers at least a portion of the back panel shield frame.

2. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1,

wherein the back panel shield frame is a closed frame and includes four that is formed by the two lateral sides, the bottom side, and a top side, the groove running continuously around the these four sides,

the screen is attached around its complete periphery in the groove, and

the edge of the padding cover is also attached around its complete periphery in the groove.

3. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 2, wherein the edge of the padding cover includes flaps which extend beyond the padding and cover the sides and rear face of the back panel shield frame.

4. (Previously Presented) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the edges of the screen and/or the padding cover include elastic clips which can be inserted into corresponding holes made in the bottom of the groove.

5. (Previously Presented) Backrest in accordance with claim 4, wherein the clips are made from a profiled strip with an arrow-shaped section sewn onto the edge of the padding cover and/or of the screen.

6. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein a suspension mat is attached to the back panel shield frame.

7. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the back panel shield frame includes, on at least one lateral side, a counterform for an inflatable protective cushion.

8. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the back panel shield frame is made of a recycled plastic material.

9. (Withdrawn) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the back panel shield frame includes:

two lateral sides to ensure the shape of the lateral edges of the rear of the backrest, and  
a bottom side to ensure the shape of the bottom of the backrest and to allow the attachment of the lower edge of the screen and of a lower flap extending from the front face of the padding cover and passing under the lower edge of the backrest.

10. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the padding cover covers all the external surfaces of the padding and includes a plurality of flaps that extend beyond the edges of the padding so as to cover ~~the outer edges of the sides~~ and rear face of the back panel shield frame.

11. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:  
a suspension mat attached to the framework;

wherein the screen is ~~a flexible textile film~~ attached to the back panel shield frame so as to be located on behind and some distance from the suspension mat, and so as not to contact the framework.

12. (Currently Amended) Backrest in accordance with claim 1, wherein the framework ~~includes~~ is a closed frame including an upper crossmember, two lateral uprights, ~~and~~ a lower crossmember, and a central opening.

13. (Previously Presented) Backrest in accordance with claim 12, wherein lower ends of the lateral uprights accommodate backrest-to-seat pan hinge mechanisms.

14. (Previously Presented) An automobile vehicle including at least one seat comprising the backrest in accordance with claim 1.

15. (Currently Amended) A seat comprising:

a backrest; and

a seat pan hinged to the backrest,

wherein the backrest includes:

a framework having a front side and a rear side,

a padding,

a padding cover covering the padding and a front face and sides of the backrest,

a screen for a rear face of the backrest, and

a rigid back panel shield frame,

wherein the back panel shield frame is a frame with at least two lateral sides, and a bottom side, and a central opening,

the back panel shield frame ~~being adapted to be~~ is attached to the rear side of the framework of the backrest so as to cover lateral edges of the framework and a bottom part of the rear side of the framework of the backrest,

the back panel shield frame ~~including~~ includes towards an inner edge at least one groove adapted to accommodate and hold an edge of the padding cover and an edge of the screen, and

the padding cover ~~covering~~ covers at least a portion of the back panel shield frame.

16. (Currently Amended) The seat in accordance with claim 15,

wherein the back panel shield frame of the backrest is a closed frame ~~and includes four~~ that is formed by the two lateral sides, the bottom side, and a top side, the groove running continuously around ~~the~~ these four sides,

the screen of the backrest is attached around its complete periphery in the groove, and

the edge of the padding cover of the backrest is also attached around its complete periphery in the groove.

17. (Previously Presented) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the edges of the screen of the backrest and/or the padding cover of the backrest include elastic clips which can be inserted into corresponding holes made in the bottom of the groove.
18. (Currently Amended) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the padding cover of the backrest covers all the external surfaces of the padding and includes a plurality of flaps that extend beyond the edges of the padding so as to cover ~~the outer edges of the sides~~ and rear face of the back panel shield frame.
19. (Currently Amended) The seat in accordance with claim 15, wherein the framework of the backrest ~~includes~~ is a closed frame including an upper crossmember, two lateral uprights, and a lower crossmember, and a central opening.
20. (Previously Presented) An automobile vehicle including at least one seat in accordance with claim 15.